



Rt Hon Grant Shapps
Secretary of State for Transport

11th August 2021

Dear Secretary of State Shapps,

Canvey Island
Oikos and Calor Storage Plants

By now you will be familiar with proposals for increasing fuel storage at the Oikos plant and the various comments surrounding the proposal.

To me it seems **pointless** going into detail about:

- The risks of explosion
- The dangerous proximity of the two COMAH storage plants, Oikos and Calor and the high probability of a major calamitous hazard in one plant affecting the other bringing about two major incidents. In a blast situation, their current separation will mean nothing as either are well within the blast radius of the other
- The potential for a huge number of fatalities, perhaps in their 1,000s, from a major blast. And the destruction of homes and industrial and commercial businesses
- The limited access and egress associated with the island and the likelihood that emergency services could be blocked from getting to any extreme hazard
- Similarly with residents trying to flee the island due to extreme explosions and associated fire storms, choking fumes, etc
- The fact that residents to the east of the island could effectively be trapped with no way of getting off the island by sea towards a safe landing in, eg, Southend
- The fact that various regulations determine that the danger radius is some 10+ miles on an island around 4 miles long
- The fact that NO safety system in the entire world is totally reliable
- All the various meetings, checks, 'official processes', safety assurances and so forth

- The possibility of terrorist action such as: crashing a plane or bomb-laden drone into either of the plants. Attaching bombs to the tanks. Using industrial lasers to pierce the tanks and ignite the contents, deliberate shutting down of safety equipment, etc
- Or accidents such as a plane crash, lorry crash, filling leakages, static discharge, lightning strike, etc
- The incidents that have already occurred both at Oikos and Calor and the associated attempts to downplay/cover up such incidents
- The fatal incidents and property destruction at various similar sites around the world, ALL with supposedly fail-proof safety systems

Pointless, because the simple question of safety of life and property in such a confined area massively overrides any other consideration, legal, economic, strategic or political. It makes any discussion, except for the removal of Oikos and Calor, completely irrelevant!

Had the plants never been built on the island then given all the circumstances, they would NEVER even be considered today! And if there were a large enough site in London close to the various structures and residences, nor, in a million years, would that be considered either!

There are various remote sites along the Thames which could be considered, including the planned facilities at Tilbury. Yes, it would cost several £millions to move them, BUT MOVED THEY MUST BE!

In a rare request, as a sovereign citizen in association with other Castle Point residents addressing and lending our sovereignty to a public servant, I would ask the following:

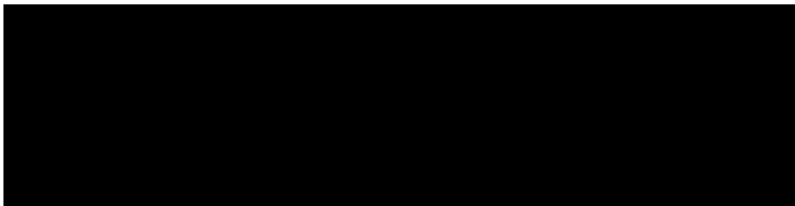
- a) **Invoke emergency legislation** as applicable
- b) STOP all discussions about extending Oikos, similarly with details of planning, set processes, etc. It's moot!
- c) Order the immediate removal of the fuel from Oikos and gas from Calor to other storage facilities. That which cannot be accommodated should be stored in tanker ships until land storage is available
- d) Order the removal of all tanks, bund walls, offices, etc, etc and the complete reinstatement of the sites suitable for light industry. (Meanwhile acquisition/planning can be started for new sites followed by construction. Some of the removed plant/tanks, etc from the Canvey sites might be reusable)
- e) 'c' should be planned and executed in full within 2 months from date of receipt of my request, 'd' should be completed within 6-12 months thereafter, but with initial planning started as immediately as practicable

- f) YES, it is an extreme action, but in extreme circumstances and under emergency powers/procedures (such as in a state of war), this must be carried out as it's, in reality, an emergency. A Churchill would have seen to this within the time it takes to bark an order! (Not that, under his leadership, such a dangerous set-up would have been allowed to be built in any event!) Today's storage, risks and safety considerations are far greater than the relatively small facilities of 70+ years ago!

I sincerely trust, having the overarching consideration of safety from fatal incidents, that – in concert with other governmental departments, if necessary - you will be able to immediately address and action the requests I have set out and to remove this Damoclean sword from above the heads of 40,000 Canvey Island residents.

I hold myself available for further discussion on the matter, together, perhaps, with other Canvey residents who have long campaigned for the safety of residents. You might consider coming to Canvey Island, together with Boris and Rebecca where the sites can be visited and a pleasant lunch partaken.

Yours faithfully,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Charles March

cc: The Rt Hon Boris Johnson
The Hon Rebecca Harris



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Planning
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Charles March

Your Ref:

Our Ref: TR030004

By email only

Date: 16 November 2021

Dear Mr March

Planning Act 2008 (as amended) – Section 51

Application by Oikos Storage Ltd for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Oikos Marine & South Side Development

Thank you for your correspondence in relation to the proposed Oikos Marine and South Side Development project (OMSSD) addressed to the Rt. Hon. Grant Shapps, Secretary of State for Transport. As your correspondence relates to the submission of a Development Consent Order (DCO) application it has been passed to me to respond in my capacity as a Case Manager at the Planning Inspectorate.

I can confirm that the OMSSD project is currently at the Pre-Application stage of the DCO process and an application for Development Consent has not yet been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate. An application is expected to be submitted in Quarter 1, 2022.

As you may be aware, the Applicant (Oikos Storage Ltd) has already carried out its statutory consultation. It is understood, from the Applicant's website (<https://www.oikos.co.uk/our-development/>) that the deadline for consultation responses was 18 May 2021. However, you can make general enquiries about this project directly with the Applicant or register for their project updates via the following contact details:

- **Email:** oikos@communityrelations.co.uk
- **Phone:** 0800 206 2583
- **Post:** OIKOS FREEPOST

Please note that the Pre-Application consultation process is entirely led by the Applicant, who are responsible for ensuring that they comply with the legislative requirements surrounding consultation which are set out in the Planning Act 2008. This includes a legal requirement for the Applicant to consult with Statutory Bodies such as the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). Your correspondence provides your comments on the merits of the Proposed Development, which the Applicant sought

during its consultation. The Planning Inspectorate would advise you to make these comments directly to the Applicant if you have not already done so. If you are not satisfied that the Applicant is taking your comments into account you should raise this with the Local Authority.

Information about the Planning Inspectorate's remit once an Application is submitted

When an application is formally submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for Examination, an assessment is made on whether it is of a satisfactory standard to proceed to an Examination. One key element of this assessment is to check whether the Applicant has fulfilled its statutory consultation duties. In order to help make an informed decision on this matter the Planning Inspectorate writes to all relevant Local Authorities for their views on the adequacy of the consultation. The Applicant is also statutorily required to demonstrate in its submitted application where they have shown regard to responses received during their period of statutory consultation.

If the application is subsequently accepted for Examination, parties are able to register as an Interested Party and make Relevant Representations for the appointed Examining Authority to consider. Please read the Planning Inspectorate's advice note on How to Register to participate in an Examination (<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Advice-note-8-2v3.pdf>) for further information.

The appointed Examining Authority will make an initial assessment of the issues arising from the submitted application as well as from the Relevant Representations received, which will inform their Examination of the proposed development. The appointed Examining Authority will also undertake a site inspection to fully understand the proposed development.

In order to assist parties in understanding the Planning Act 2008 process, the Planning Inspectorate has prepared a suite of Advice Notes. In particular the Advice Note 8 series provides an overview for members of the public of the Examination of Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/>). The Advice Notes are available to view on the National Infrastructure Planning website, hopefully you will find these of assistance.

You may wish to note that the Planning Inspectorate has set up a project page on the Nationally Significant Planning website for the OMSSD project: (<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/oikos-marine-south-side-development/>). All documents received and issued by the Planning Inspectorate will be published to this page, including your correspondence and this response.

I hope this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Michele Gregory

Michele Gregory
Case Manager

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<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

